IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

FUJIEDA, Tsukasa et al.

Serial No.: 10/576,193 Art Unit: 1792

Filed: April 17, 2006 Examiner: Robert S. Walters JR

For: METHOD OF FORMING LUSTER COATING FILM

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

I, Tsukasa FUJIEDA, hereby declare:

1) That I am the inventor of the instant invention;

2) That I graduated from Kobe Design University with a Degree in March, 1993;

3) That I have been employed by KANSAI PAINT CO., LTD., since April, 1993, where I hold a position as a color designer, with responsibility for CD Laboratory, R&D Division; and

4) That the experiments given below were carried out under my general direction and supervision.

Experiments

Comparative Example A

The procedure of Example 1 of the present application was

followed, except that aqueous luster base coating composition (A-1) was applied to the substrate in such a manner that the thickness of the coating composition applied in each stage became about 6 μm (when cured) and the total thickness of the coating composition applied in the two stages became 12 μm (when cured); and aqueous luster base coating composition (A-1) was applied over the cured coating layer of clear coating composition (B-1) in such a manner that the thickness of the coating composition applied in each stage became about 6 μm (when cured), and the total thickness of the coating composition applied in the two stages became 12 μm (when cured). A coated sheet was thus obtained in which a luster multilayer coating film was formed on a substrate.

In the application of aqueous luster base coating composition (A-1) to the substrate, the solids content of the applied composition one minute after the application in each stage was determined (Solids Content 1); and in the application of aqueous luster base coating composition (A-1) to the cured coating layer of clear coating composition (B-1), the solids content of the applied composition one minute after the application in each stage was determined (Solids Content 2). Specifically, aqueous luster base coating composition (A-1) was applied over a predetermined area of aluminum foil using a Metabell rotary electrostatic coater at 30,000 rpm, shaping pressure of 1.7 kg/cm^2, gun distance of 30 cm, booth temperature of 20°C, and booth humidity of 75%, in such a manner that the thickness of the coating composition became 6 μm (when cured). After one minute, the coated aluminum foil was recovered, immediately folded so that the moisture did not further evaporate, and then immediately weighed (Weight 1). The aluminum foil was then opened, and the coating composition was cured under heating at 140°C for 30 minutes, and then weighed (Weight 2).

Each of the Solids Contents 1 and 2 was calculated by dividing

Weight 2 by Weight 1. The Solids Contents 1 and 2 were each 35%.

Performance Evaluation Tests

The resulting coated sheets were tested for density of texture and flip-flop property by the methods described on page 31, line 31 to page 33, line 5 of the specification.
The results of the evaluation are shown below.

Density of texture: Naked eye observation "C", HG value "60"
Flip-flop property: Naked eye observation "C", FF value "1.1"

I, the undersigned, declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: December 18, 2008 Tsukasa Fujieda

Tsukasa FUJIEDA